



# USA Society Intolerance Revision

1919 - 1930

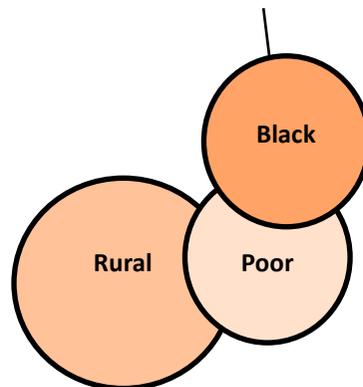
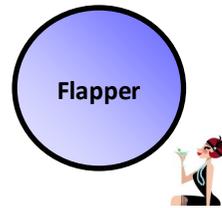
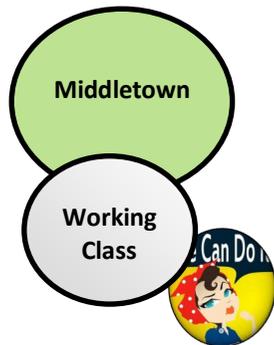
# How Far Did U.S. Society Change in the 1920s?

"I pay our women well so they can dress attractively and get married."  
Henry Ford

## What were the Roaring 20s?

The Roaring 20's were ...	
Freedom in cars 	
Watching sports	
Radio	
Jazz Music 	
Cinema	
Dancing / Clubs 	
Sex	
Advertising	
Consumerism	

## How far did the roles + attitude of women change in the 1920s ?



By 1929 - 10 million women had jobs.  
24% increase since 1920.  
but .. only 1/4 of women worked in paid jobs.

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## The Temperance Movement

The Temperance Movement consisted mostly of strict Christian groups that felt alcohol was harmful. They campaigned to ban / prohibit alcohol. There were two main groups.

- 1: The Anti - Saloon League
- 2: The Women's Christian Temperance Movement

The campaign was strongest in the South. By 1916, 21 southern states had banned saloons. People who wanted to prohibit alcohol became known as dries. Their main argument was drinking took fathers away from their homes and they used evidence such as 3000 infants a year were smothered in their beds by drunken parents.

The campaign for prohibition gained support from large employers who felt alcohol negatively impacted their workers and therefore their profits.

## The First World War

The First World War helped the dries Prohibition campaign. Drinkers were accused of being unpatriotic cowards as most of the larger brewing companies were run by German immigrants.

Finally, the dries linked alcohol to communism and the lawlessness in immigrant communities.

## The Volstead Act

By 1917, the Prohibition campaign had support from enough states to change the constitution ( law ).  
In 1920, the **Volstead Act** prohibited the making, sale and consumption of alcohol across the entire USA.

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Unpopular + Hard to Enforce

Corruption

Gangsters + Organised Crime

St Valentine's Day Massacre

# How Widespread Was Intolerance In The 1920s ?



Relevance of 'WASPS' and intolerance?

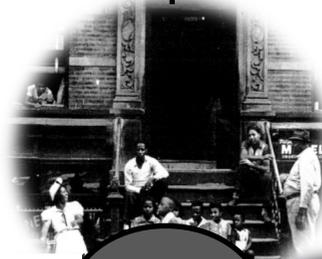


Northern Blacks



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Sacco And Vanzetti



Renaissance

The Black Experience



The Ku Klux Klan



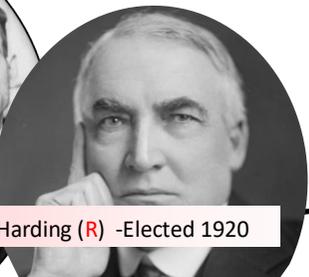
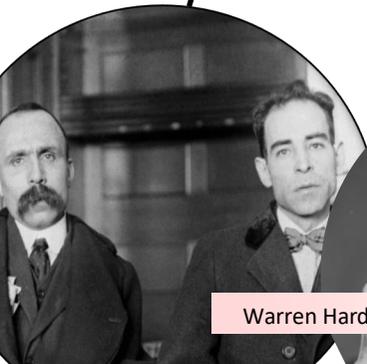
Monkey / Scopes Trial - 1925



1921 Immigration Quota Act



1924 National Origins Act



Warren Harding (R) -Elected 1920

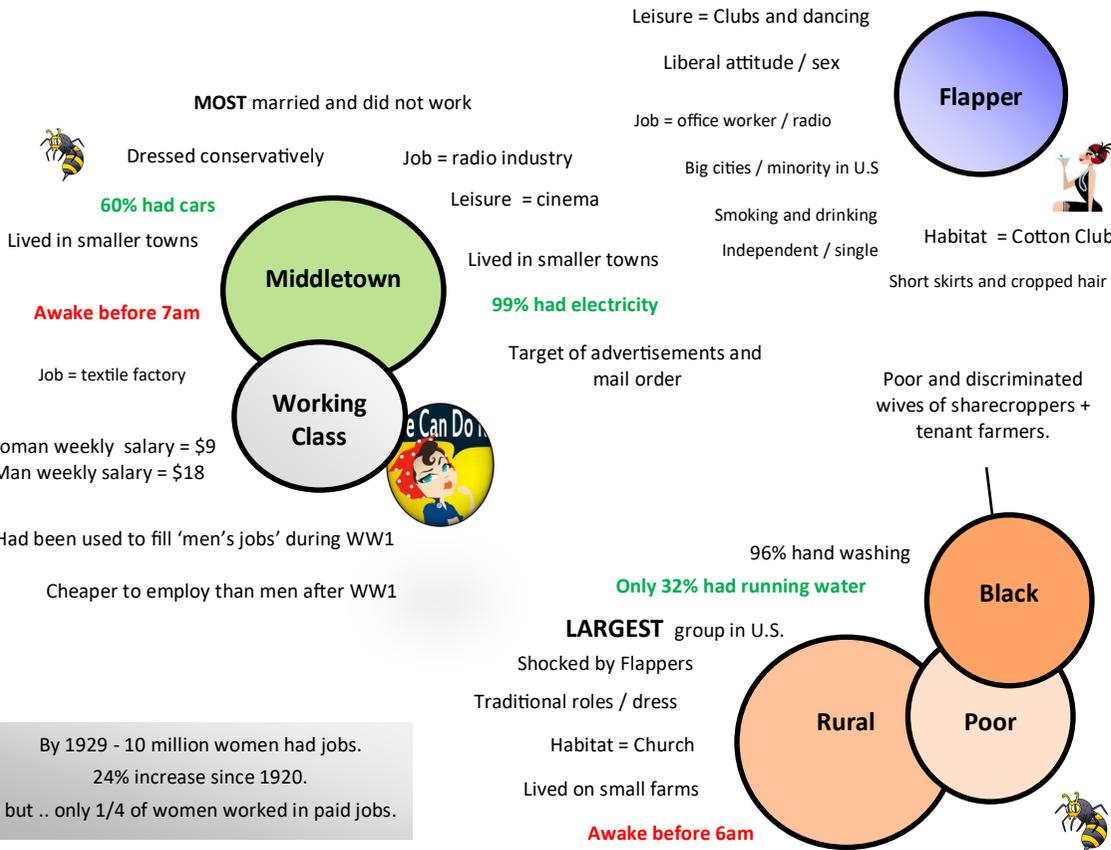
# How Far Did U.S. Society Change in the 1920s?

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## What were the Roaring 20s?

The Roaring 20's were ... a romanticized and exaggerated view of America as progressive, exciting and 'fun'.	
Freedom in cars 	Gave people more freedom - allowed the growth of suburbs - easier for young people to have sexual freedom. Commit crime!
Watching sports	Sports such as baseball and boxing— more popular. People could use car to travel.
Radio	Growth in production in consumer good—cheaper radios to listen to jazz and sports - <b>40 % owned by 1930.</b>
Jazz Music 	This period is famous for the emergence of jazz music from black artists in northern cities. Luis Armstrong
Cinema	Huge growth—youngsters went 2-3 per week. Movies helped spread ideas such as sex / fashion and female celebrity - Clara Bow.
Dancing / Clubs	More popular—The Charleston was famous for its moves performed by 'Flapper' types. Cotton Club in New York.
Sex 	A growing attitude of more freedom for women in larger northern cities. Car = sexual freedom!
Advertising	Companies became more skilled at selling to a mass market through mail order catalogues and use of credit options.
Consumerism	Advertising helped provide the 'need' for people and the age of the consumer was born.

## How far did the roles + attitude of women change in the 1920s ?



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## Unpopular + Hard to Enforce

Many Americans liked to drink - inc.. the police. It was part of American culture. With so many still drinking it couldn't be stopped in reality. More illegal bars (speakeasies) than there had been legal saloons.

"What Americans needs now is a drink".  
FDR - 1932.

## Corruption

Criminals made large profits and used this money to bribe .... mayors, judges, police and politicians. Once bribed they were at the mercy of the criminals - who could then commit other crimes without fear of prosecution. Police were not paid well so they became involved in illegal activities related to alcohol. **Prohibition created a stinking, corrupt mess.**

## Gangsters + Organised Crime

Organised gangs and gangsters - ( Al Capone ) made almost 2 billion a year from Prohibition. Rival gangs fought each other for control of the illegal alcohol .

1926 -27= 130 gangland murders in Chicago. No one was charged!

Cars and machine guns helped interstate crime and increasingly powerful bosses who had politicians 'in their pockets'.

## St Valentine's Day Massacre

**Why** - a dispute between 'Bug' Moran and Al Capone.

**What** - Capone's men disguised as police machine gunned 7 of Moran's men.

**Impact** - shocked Americans who were tired of the violence, corruption and weariness with Prohibition - the failed 'national experiment'.



Relevance of 'WASPS' and intolerance?

**Why** - following the 1917 Russian revolution many in the U.S. feared a 'Red' uprising in America.

**What** - a time of hysteria and paranoia. A wave of workers strikes - started in Seattle - and spread + May Day parade riots - increased the fear of an uprising. AG Palmer's house bombed = led to **Palmer Raids in 1919**.

**Impact** - 556 'aliens' arrested and deported - very little evidence they were actually communists. Increasing intolerance towards immigrants especially from Eastern Europe / USSR.

### Sacco And Vanzetti

**Why** - see Red Scare impact

**Why** - Italian S and V were immigrants accused of murdering shoe company paymaster on weak / flimsy evidence.

**What happened** - their trial was overseen by Judge Thayer.

The trial gained world wide media attention and there were protests in defence of S and V. They were found GUILTY.

Judge Thayer ... "did you see what I did to those anarchist bastards?"

**Impact / importance** - they were executed in 1927 after a failed appeal. This showed that society and justice system was unfair and intolerant towards immigrants and also political beliefs.

Immigrants from Eastern Europe and Asia especially unwelcome in 1920s.

**1921 Immigration Quota Act**  
Restricted number of eastern Europeans

**1924 National Origins Act**  
Further restricted the above.

Warren Harding (R) -Elected 1920

## How Widespread Was Intolerance In The 1920s ?

### Northern Blacks

During the 1920s many southern black people migrated to large northern cities such as Chicago and Detroit. However they faced discrimination and were largely excluded from the boom in industry as most employers would not hire them. They often lived in crowded ghettos that were segregated from the rest of society.

By 1930 - 25 % of the black population lived in the north cities.  
60% of black women worked as maids for white families.

Harlem - New York

### Renaissance

The Black Experience

Jazz Music

Black Pride

A 'golden age' for black writers, musicians and artists.

### Snyder Act - 1924

Sun Dance banned

How did they 'kill their culture'?

10,000 forced into boarding schools in 1920.

### Meriam Report 1928

Native Americans = poorest, sickest and most discriminated group in the U.S.



### The Ku Klux Klan

Originated after the end of slavery in 1865. In 1915 - new surge after the movie - 'Birth of a Nation'.

- By 1920 the Klan had over 100,000 members  
- By 1925 it rose to 5 million

The Klan attracted fanatics / racists who believed WASPS were the rightful and superior race. The Klan was mostly active in the South. The Klan was fighting to defend white America against ... **BLACKS**, Jews, Catholics, communists, immigrants and anarchists.

The Klan and its growth up to 1925 highlight the racism, discrimination and intolerance of the period (1920s) .

### Monkey / Scopes Trial - 1925

**Why** - John Scopes admitted to teaching evolution in a Tennessee School. This violated the state's **Butler Law**. Modernists wanted to highlight and 'call out' Fundamentalists for their **copyright** of scientific theories. 'A battle between science and religion'.

**What happened** - the trial attracted media attention. The two lawyers argued their case and the trial needed to be taken outside of the courtroom due to overcrowding. Scopes was found guilty and fined \$100.

**Impact** - both sides claimed victory - the Modernists for out arguing the Fundamentalists and making it a national debate. The Fundamentalists claimed a win as other states - e.g Texas also banned the teaching of evolution ( non-creationist ).



**The Monkey Trial**

**Black Experience**

**Native  
Americans**

**KKK**

**The Red Scare**

**Sacco and Vanzetti**

**Immigration  
Policy**

**Immigrants**

# USA Depth Study Revision 1 of 4

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